

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S:ORTIZ

APPROVED BY: S/S:ORTIZ

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R 061947Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

S E C R E T STATE 002474

NODIS

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT KINSHASA 0083, SENT SECSTATE JAN 6, 1975:

QUOTE S E C R E T KINSHASA 0083

NODIS

DEPT PASS ASST SEC SCHAUFELER AND TO AMEMBASSIES LIBREVILLE AND
LUSAKA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG, US, OAU

SUBJ: ANGOLA: PRE-OAU CONSULTATIONS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER BULA CALLED ME IN MORNING JANUARY 6
TO DISCUSS OAU TACTICS. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM YAOUNDE
WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU (WHO DEBARKED EN ROUTE AT HIS
COUNTRY RESIDENCE) AND IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE TONIGHT FOR
BANGUI WHERE MOBUTU, AMIN, AND BOKASSA ARE TO MEET AGAIN.
BULA WILL PROCEED DIRECTLY TO ADDIS AND MOBUTU WILL FOLLOW
ON JANUARY 9.

2. I BROUGHT BULA UP TO DATE ON ASST SEC SCHAUFELER'S RECENT
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TALKE IN ABIDJAN AND DAKAR, NOTING THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS

REMAINED FIRM. I SAID WE CONTINUED TO BE CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME OF KEY AFRICAN LEADERS LIKE AHIDJO MSKHONBO, AND HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY MIGHT NOT PERSONALLY PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMIT. I NOTED THAT SENGHOR WAS ENCOURAGING THEM TO ATTEND. BULA SAID HE WAS NOT SURE ABOUT AHIDJO'S INTENTIONS, ALTHOUGH HE BELIEVED MOBUTU HAD PRESSED THIS POINT DURING PRIVATE TALKS IN YAOUNDE. BONGO WAS HESITANT BECAUSE HE HAD RECEIVED INDICATIONS THAT ALGERIAN-BASED TERRORISTS MIGHT TRY TO MENACE HIM IN ADDIS. BULA UNDERSTOOD THAT BONGO INTENDED TO CONTACT OUR AMBASSADOR IN GABON ABOUT POSSIBLE SECURITY PROTECTION. AS FOR HOUPHOUET, BULA OBSERVED WE WAS GETTING OLD AND HAD A "FEAR OF FLYING". EVEN WITHOUT THESE LEADERS, BULA BELIEVED MOBUTU, SENGHOR, AND KAUNDA WOULD FORM A STRONG NUCLEUS AROUND WHICH OTHER COULD RALLY. HE ADDED THAT EYADEMA OF TOGO HAD ASSURED THE GOZ HE WOULD ALSO ATTEND.

2. TURNING TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MEETING, BULA EXPRESSED SOME ANNOYANCE THAT KAUNDA HAD GONE AHEAD AND PREPARED AN "AGENDA" OF HIS OWN WITHOUT FULLY CONSULTING WITH MOBUTU AND OTHERS. HE AGREED THAT KAUNDA'S FORMULATION CONTAINED SOME INTERESTING AND USEFUL IDEAS, BUT HE THOUGHT IT WAS UNWISE TO PROPOSE CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION AS A SEPARATE POINT. HE SAID ZAIRE (PRESUMABLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH BOKASSA, BONGO AND PERHAPS AMIN) WOULD TAKE ITS OWN PROPOSALS TO ADDIS AND TRY TO WORK OUT AN AGREED POSITION PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE SUMMIT MEETING. BULA DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF JUST WHAT ZAIRE'S POSITION WOULD ENCOMPASS, MENTIONING ONLY THAT IT WOULD COVER "THE MAJOR POINTS, INCLUDING CEASE-FIRE, WITHDRAWAL AND INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION". I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ANY MAJOR DIFFERENCES COULD BE IRONED OUT BEFORE THE MEETING WITH A MINIMUM OF PUBLIC DISAGREEMENT.

3. BULA SAID HE ANTICIPATED THAT MPLA SUPPORTERS WOULD TAKE A HARD LINE AT THE MEETINGS AND THAT ALGERIA AND ZAIRE WOULD BE THE MAIN PROTAGONISTS. HE CRITICIZED ALGERIA FOR CONTINUING TO PLAY A PARTICULARLY HARMFUL ROLE IN CONNIVANCE WITH THE SOVIETS. LIBYA, FOR EXAMPLE,

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HAD RECOGNIZED THE MPLA -- DESPITE FIRM ASSURANCES PREVIOUSLY GIVEN ZAIRE THAT IT WOULD NOT -- SHORTLY AFTER BOUMEDIENE HAD GONE TO LIBYA TO PUSH THE MPLA CAUSE.

4. BEFORE LEAVING, BULA POINTED TO THE TWO BOOKS LYING SIDE BY SIDE ON HIS COFFEE TABLE: BARCHETTI'S "CIA" AND BARRON'S "KGB". HE SAID HE HAD READ THEM BOTH, AND WHEN CHARGES OF CIA SKULLDUGGERY IN ANGOLA ARE RAISED IN ADDIS,

HE WILL HOLD THEM BOTH UP AS PROOF THAT CIA HAS NOTHING
ON THE KGB. CUTLER UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-C, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE002474
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:ORTIZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760001-0141
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760182/aaaacvgm.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 FEB 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA: PRE-OAU CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG, US, XA, OAU, (MANDUNGU BULA NYATI)
To: LIBREVILLE LUSAKA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006